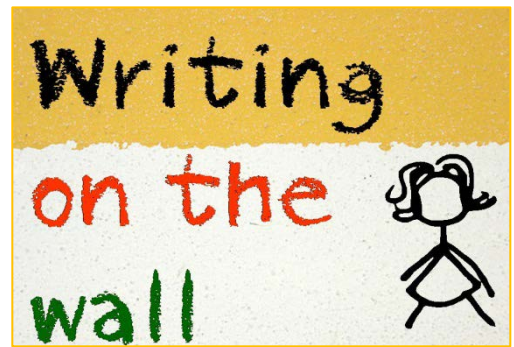


# **Writing on the Wall**

This activity allows students to respond to fiction or non-fiction by writing comments on each other's "wall" (it's sort of like Facebook, without the computer ☺!). Students are able to share their thoughts about a reading selection by "talking" on paper. According to researcher Edgar Dale (1956), students remember 70 percent of what they talk about with others!



## **Materials:**

Paper

Pens/pencils

Reading material

## **Directions:**

1. After reading a fiction or non-fiction text selection, each student writes a statement or question about what they read at the top of a piece of notebook paper. This becomes the student's "wall".
2. Each student then responds to his statement or question and passes his paper to the next student, who responds to the previous student's response. Each new response should include a detail from the selection or unit of study. A response that includes an unsupported statement or opinion is not permitted.
3. Students continue to pass the papers around the room to gather as many responses as time permits.
4. Collect all papers.
5. Place students in groups of about five or six, depending on the size of your class. Provide each group with one paper. Allow students to read and discuss responses. Do they agree with the "conversation" on paper? Is there anything with which they do not agree? Can they provide other details from the selection to support what was stated?
6. After students complete discussion on one paper, give them another to respond to. When at least one group has responded to each paper, work with the class to create a chart of common points students raised.
7. You'll be amazed at how much they remember ☺!